

Message Text

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46

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ADP-00 USIA-12 L-03 /026 W

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R 091750 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8213

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 2804

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SCUL IT

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

FOR: CU

REF: STATE 061312, ROME 2654

1. ON APRIL 7 MINISTER FAUSTO BACHETTI OF MFA CULTURAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE INFORMALLY PRESENTED EMBASSY CAO WITH DRAFT OF POSSIBLE NEW EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT.

2. BACHETTI HAS ASKED THAT EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON DRAFTS PROCEED INFORMALLY UNTIL PROGRESS WARRANTS MORE FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS IN ORDER QUOTE SAVE TIME UNQUOTE. IN THIS CONNECTION BACHETTI SAID MFA DRAFT HAS MFA LEGAL OFFICE APPROVAL BUT THAT HE COULD PRESENT IT TO US ONLY WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT MFA RESERVES RIGHT TO PROPOSE ALTERATIONS LATER. HE CONFESSED TO HAVING PUT CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ON LEGAL OFFICE TO SHAKE DRAFT LOOSE BEFORE PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON LEAVING US WITH SOME APPREHENSION THAT LEGAL OFFICE MIGHT STILL BE CHEWING ON PARTS OF THE DRAFT. WE CONSIDER THIS POSSIBILITY OF FAR LESS SIGNIFICANCE THAN FACT WE HAVE REACHED A POINT WHERE WE CAN BEGIN EXCHANGE VIEWS ON FORM NEW AGREEMENT TO TAKE.

3. BACHETTI CONFIRMED THAT ANY NEW AGREEMENT RESULTING FROM MFA DRAFT WILL NEED PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL WHICH HE SAYS IS NO PROBLEM RIGHT NOW BUT IS QUOTE AN IMPORTANT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REASON FOR MOVING AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THUS MINIMIZING
WHATEVER DANGER THERE MIGHT BE IN ANY POLITICAL CHANGES
UNQUOTE.

4. BACHETTI INFORMED CAO THAT ANDREOTTI WILL BE REMINDED
THAT MFA AND EMBASSY QUOTE IN CLOSE TOUCH ON MATTER OF
NEW EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AGREEMENT UNQUOTE AND MIGHT
MENTION THIS IN CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT. THE
DEPARTMENT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY WANT TO PROVIDE SOME BRIEF-
ING ON STATUS AND IMPORTANCE OF NEW EDUCATIONAL AGREEMENT.

5. ITALIAN VERSION OF MFA DRAFT BEING SENT TO DEPARTMENT
IMMEDIATELY TO AVOID DELAY. EMBASSY ENGLISH LANGUAGE
TRANSLATION WILL FOLLOW SOONEST. VOLPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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